

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY OES/APT/SEP:RGMORRIS:GEM
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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, US, UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR S&T AGREEMENT: COMPUTER APPLICATIONS
(01.01): POSTPONEMENT OF THREE US DELEGATION VISITS

REF: MOSCOW 8580, MOSCOW 8631

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM
GANLEY TO AYKAZYAN. HARD COPY BEING POUCHED.

2. 01.01 - JUNE 17, 1977

DR. EDOUARD A. AYKAZYAN
CHIEF OF USA DESK
FOREIGN RELATIONS DIVISION
COUNSELOR TO SOVIET SIDE OF
JOINT COMMISSION
STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY
MOSCOW
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DEAR EDOUARD:

WE HAVE LEARNED THAT VISITS OF THREE UNITED STATES
DELEGATIONS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN THE SOVIET UNION ON

JUNE 19 FOR WORK UNDER THE COMPUTER APPLICATIONS WORKING

GROUP OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN POSTPONED BY THE SOVIET SIDE JUST A FEW DAYS BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE FROM THE UNITED STATES. THIS LAST-MINUTE CHANGE OF PLAN NOT ONLY WORKS A HARDSHIP ON THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATIONS, SOME OF WHOM WERE ALREADY EN ROUTE TO MOSCOW, BUT ALSO WASTES THE TIME SPENT IN MAKING THE PLANS FOR THE VISITS. FURTHERMORE, THE POSTPONEMENT TO AUTUMN DELAYS PROGRESS IN THE COOPERATIVE WORK OF THIS GROUP, WORK DEEMED OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO BOTH OF OUR COUNTRIES.

MOST SERIOUS IN MY VIEW, HOWEVER, IS THE EFFECT SUCH AN ELEVENTH-HOUR POSTPONEMENT WILL HAVE ON THE FUTURE OF THE PROGRAM. WE WISH TO ENGAGE OUR BEST SCIENTISTS TO WORK ON JOINT PROJECTS, AND THESE ARE OFTEN THE BUSIEST. SINCE THEY SERVE VOLUNTARILY, WE HAVE NO WAY TO ASSURE THAT THEY CONTINUE IF THEY BECOME IMPATIENT WITH PROGRESS, IF THEY BELIEVE THEIR EFFORTS ARE NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY, OR IF THEY PERCEIVE THEMSELVES TO BE IMPOLITELY TREATED.

I WELL UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEMS IN ACCOMMODATING ADDITIONAL VISITORS DURING THE SUMMER TOURIST SEASON, ESPECIALLY WHEN LARGE INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS ARE IN PROGRESS. AND OF COURSE POSTPONEMENTS IN A PROGRAM AS LARGE AS THIS ONE ARE OCCASIONALLY INEVITABLE. BUT THE SHORTNESS OF NOTICE IN THIS CASE HAS CAUSED CONSIDERABLE DISTRESS.

I WANT TO BRING THIS MATTER TO YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION
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BECAUSE I KNOW YOU ARE AS CONCERNED AS I AM ABOUT THE SUCCESS OF THE WORK UNDER THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT. THE PROGRESS MADE AND THE RESULTS ACHIEVED IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS ARE TOO GREAT TO BE JEOPARDIZED BY INCIDENTS SUCH AS THIS.

LET ME CLOSE ON A MORE POSITIVE NOTE BY SAYING I AM LOOKING FORWARD WITH GREAT PLEASURE TO MEETING YOU AGAIN IN WASHINGTON NEXT MONTH.

SINCERELY,

OSWALD H. GANLEY
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. VANCE

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